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6/20/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: § Group Art Unit: 1104  
Ravi Iyer §  
  
Prior Application Serial No.: 08/599,675 §  
  
Prior Application Filed: February 12, 1996 § Examiner: Whipple, M.  
  
Serial No.: Unassigned §  
  
Filed: Herewith § Atty Docket: MICS:0015--2/FLE  
  
For: PLANARIZATION USING PLASMA §  
OXIDIZED AMORPHOUS SILICON §

04052865-0414928  
Assistant Commissioner  
For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

<i>"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL</i>	
NUMBER:	EL 065-999-665-US
DATE OF DEPOSIT:	April 14, 1998
<i>Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I hereby certify that I am personally depositing this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above in a sealed envelope (a) having the above-numbered Express Mail label and sufficient postage affixed, and (b) addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.</i>	
April 14, 1998 Date	Cynthia L. Hayden

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 2-11 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 12-23 as set forth below: